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December 9, 2009

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S.W., Room 1034
Washington, DC 20024

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

**Re: *Abandonment of Trackage in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota*
STB Docket No. AB-57 (Sub-No. 56X)**

Dear Chief Brown:

On August 18, 2008, Soo Line Railroad Company, d/b/a Canadian Pacific Railway ("Soo Line"), filed a Notice of Exemption to abandon an approximately 61-mile line of railroad between milepost 535 +/- (in Kramer) and milepost 474.5 +/- (in Bisbee) in Bottineau, Rolette, and Towner Counties, North Dakota. On September 5, 2008, the Board served and published the notice in the Federal Register (73 Fed. Reg. 51883). The exemption became effective on October 7, 2008.

In its decision served October 6, 2008, the Board required Soo Line satisfy two conditions prior to consummation of the abandonment: consult with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers St. Paul District Office before commencing salvage activities and coordinate with the North Dakota Department of Health, Environmental Health Section to ensure that appropriate measures are implemented during proposed salvage activities.

On December 8, 2009, Northern Plains Railroad, Inc. ("NPR") filed a discontinuance of service exemption for the line of railroad it leases from Soo Line that is the subject of the above-captioned abandonment exemption. *Northern Plains Railroad, Inc. - Discontinuance of Service Exemption - In Bottineau, Rolette And Towner Counties, North Dakota*, STB Docket No. AB-1054 (Sub-No. 1X).

Although Soo Line recently satisfied the above-described conditions the Board imposed on October 6, 2008, it would be premature for Soo Line to consummate its abandonment authority at this time in light of NPR's pending discontinuance of service exemption. Accordingly,

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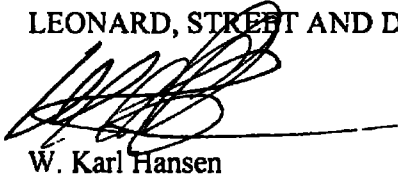
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pursuant to 49 CFR § 1152.29(e)(2), Soo Line requests an extension of the consummation period until 30 days after NPR's discontinuance of service has been consummated.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

LEONARD, STREET AND DEINARD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Karl Hansen', is written over a horizontal line.

W. Karl Hansen